

taken by him from a mule in Edgefield County, South Carolina, on July 16, 1935. The owner of the animal was W. B. Mathis. Aside from the unusual host record in this case, the collection is of interest in that the *Cuterebra* larva probably served as the predisposing cause of the infestation by *Cochliomyia americana*.

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### **A New Species of Cryptophagus, found Associated with Ants. (Coleoptera: Cryptophagidae).**

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The species described below was found under bark on an old log and in association with ants. It is evidently new as it cannot be identified among the thirty-two species listed by Thos. L. Casey in his Review of the Cryptophagidae.<sup>1</sup> The species is described as follows:

#### **Cryptophagus blumii** n. sp.

Form oval to slightly ovate, a little more than twice as long as wide, in profile moderately convex dorsally. Color more or less dark ferrugineous, luster dull; body surface microscopically granulate, the punctures very minutely submuricate. Pubescence very short and inconspicuous, recumbent, a little longer and more abundant on the under surface of the body, distinctly denser on the abdomen.

Head triangular, almost twice as wide as long before the post-ocular line; sides convergent, not narrowed by the antennal insertions, margins slightly and broadly arcuate over the antennal fossae, thence feebly sinuate to the epistomal apex, the latter truncate and equal in width to about one-fourth of the width across the eyes; labrum short and broadly arcuate at apex; frons moderately convex, somewhat densely punctate, punctures relatively coarse, well defined and separated by a distance equal to their diameters, slightly denser laterally. Eyes strongly convex and prominent, minutely setigerous; facets somewhat coarse and convex. Antennae stout, in length equal to the pronotal width; segments nine, ten and eleven forming a club that is gradually formed beyond the eighth; funicular segments four to nine inclusive subquadrate and smallest, each very slightly

<sup>1</sup> Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., Vol. VIII, No. 2, June, 1900, p. 92.

narrowed to base; second and third equal in length and more robust, especially the former; first large and more or less quadrate; ninth a little wider than the eighth and subquadrate, tenth transverse and a third wider than long, eleventh widest, irregularly oval and slightly oblique at apex.

Pronotum transversely oblong, about one-fourth to almost one-third wider than long; apex transverse in moderate circular arc, angles slightly prominent anteriorly, arcuato-oblique, the obliquity due to the moderate oval truncature which is not polished and slightly unguiculate posteriorly; sides parallel, feebly convergent apically, scarcely sinuate behind the nodes, median denticles minute or obsolete, thence to base scarcely at all arcuate, marginal bead very narrow and not reflexed, marginal finbriae moderately short and directed backward; base feebly arcuate in middle two-fourths, thence broadly and feebly sinuate to the subrectangular angles, marginal bead distinct but not coarse; disk moderately convex, small impressions are more or less discernable against the basal margin at junction of middle and lateral thirds, internal to which small, raised impunctate callus-like spots may be slightly evident; at sides of the disk the submarginal surface is broadly and very feebly impressed, beginning arcuately from each basal impression and thence forward parallel to the margin toward apex.

Elytral oval, widest at middle, about two-fifths longer than wide and not quite three times as long as the pronotum, base feebly and broadly emarginate, adapted to the prothoracic base, finely beaded; humeri narrowly rounded and exposed; sides broadly and moderately arcuate, converging in apical third to the rounded apex, the latter slightly emarginate at the suture, lateral margin very narrow; disk moderately convex from side to side, arcuately and gradually declivous in apical third; surface finely punctate, punctures shallow and less sharply defined than on the pronotum, each with a very short decumbent hair; parasutural striae very fine and absent in basal fourth or third.

Legs moderate in length, rather slender; metafemora and tibiae subequal in length; tibiae gradually widening from base to apex, the anterior slightly arcuate; metatarsi two-third as long as their tibiae. Abdomen feebly convex, finely and densely punctate.

Males a little less robust, body a little more convergent anteriorly and the abdomen less convex. Female usually a little more robust, less narrowed anteriorly and the abdomen a little more convex.

Measurements. (Types) Length 2.25-2.5 mm.; width 1.0-1.6 mm.

*Holotype*, male, No. 4193, and *allotype*, female, No. 4194, in author's collection, Museum of the California Academy of Sciences. Collected in Glacier Park, MONTANA, July, 1935, by Mr. John E. Blum, to whom the species is dedicated. Five specimens were secured. One paratype in the Author's collection and two in that of Mr. Blum.

*Blumii* by Casey's table falls near *fungicola* Zimm. but differs notably in the character of the pubescence, body luster and punctation, as well as in size. In *fungicola* the pubescence is moderate in length and subdecumbent; body oblong, shining and dark testaceous in color; the measurements indicate a smaller species, it occurs in Indiana and Carolina (Zimm.). The body in *blumii* is evidently more strongly convex dorsally.

Most of the species of *Cryptophagus* are attracted to and inhabit musty, mouldy vegetable matter if not too moist; some of the species frequent certain blossoms, as of the chinquapin oak (*Castanopsis sempervirens* Dudley).

#### Colored Glass Beads for recording data concerning Alcoholic Specimens.

It is obviously desirable to mark all specimens in such a way that it can be told by inspection what data have been recorded concerning them. One may wish to know whether a given specimen has been catalogued, measured, spotted on a distribution map, recorded in print, or figured; it is also important to have types, paratypes and other noteworthy specimens distinctively labelled. A part of such information is ordinarily conveyed by written or printed labels, but the method is so laborious and slow that most workers simply fail to record all the information about their specimens which would prove useful to themselves and others.

The use of minute beads of colored glass offers an easy solution to the problem, so far as alcoholic material is concerned. Different colors of beads are assigned particular meanings; thus a red bead may designate a type, a blue bead a specimen recorded in the literature, etc. Such beads are permanent in color, easily seen in the vial (since they always rest on the bottom and can be "read" from any direction), harmless to delicate specimens because of their small size and globular form, and are relatively inexpensive and easy to obtain in quantity. Their use of course does not do away with the necessity